

# Jackson County Journal.

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SYLVA, N. C., SEPTEMBER 24, 1915.

\$1.00 THE YEAR IN ADVANCE

## THE FLORAL TRIBUTE OF COL. S. A. JONES

One of the most pleasing features connected with the unveiling of the Confederate Monument on last Saturday was the handsome bank of flowers which Col. S. A. Jones of Waynesville placed around the base of the Monument just before the veil was removed. This offering consisted of dahlias of the most gorgeous shades and perfect types ever gathered in the mountains. No conservatory could have duplicated a more beautiful display.

This tribute came at a most opportune time. The most solemn hour in the history of Old Jackson was at hand. Around this shrine were gathered the shattered and tattered remnants of the proudest army which ever shouldered arms. Southern manhood was there to uphold their honor; Southern womanhood was there to sing of their valor. It was a Southern setting and time turned back for fifty years. Within prison walls, on battle fields and in the trenches the thoughts of all were turned. Across this chasm was wafted the incense of these flowers, typifying the sweet memories of fallen heroes who fill the thoughts of Southern people. Back across this span was carried the purity of these flowers, exemplifying the principals for which they died. Back to other days floated the beauty of these flowers, proclaiming for all time to come that their heroic deeds and deathless valor entitle them to the choicest of Southern diadems.

## WEBSTER NEWS

Farmers around here are getting along nicely with their work.

The school at Webster bids fair to be the most successful year that it has ever had in its history.

Mr. R. O. Self of Statesville is visiting home folks here this week.

Mrs. Eva Bryson of Cullowhee is guest of Mrs. Madison.

A large number of the people of Webster attended the unveiling at Sylva, Saturday and reported a good time.

Mr. Will Curtis, Editor of the Franklin Press, was here Saturday.

Mr. J. Z. Taylor of Ellijay brought a wagon load of nice apples to Webster last week.

Messers John Dillard and Don Davis made a business trip to Franklin Saturday.

Mr. W. R. Sherrill is spending the week end with his family here.

Misses Mary Rickman and Noma Matlock and Mr. Orie Matlock of Macon county are attending the Webster high school.

If the Webster school continues to progress as it is now, there will be no reason why the dreams of Prof. Utley and a number of others should not come true as to the Farm Life School.

It would be a very poor business act on the people of Jackson County to let such a chance pass to help the boys and girls. If we expect to keep them on the farm, we will have to educate them along rural lines.

J. C. MOORE.

Rev. R. H. Askew, will preach at Dillsboro Baptist church Sunday evening 8 P. M. everybody invited to attend this service.

## UNVEILING OF THE CONFEDERATE MONUMENT

By O. S. DEAN.

Saturday of last week was a great day for Sylva and Jackson County. It was, perhaps, the greatest day the town and county have ever had, because it marked the culmination of a long and sustained effort to secure the erection of a beautiful monument to the memory of the confederate dead, an achievement that not only honors the dead soldier and gladdens the heart of the living veteran, but that acts as an inspiration to the present generation and will stir the hearts of generations yet to come. The occasion was memorable, also, because of the fact that it was an indication of the progressive spirit which is becoming more and more characteristic of the county of Jackson and the city of Sylva.

The whole order of the day was surcharged with interest and thrills from beginning to end. Early in the forenoon the crowds began to gather and the streets of the little "gem of the mountains" were alive and astir. Every train brought crowded coaches, and long processions of wagons, buggies, carriages and automobiles, flanked and re-inforced by riders on horseback, could be seen converging upon the capital city of the county.

Near the hour of noon, the final procession was formed. Its line stretched from the post office almost to the foot of the hill upon which stands the new and handsome county court house. The few who did not join in the march viewed the pageant from doorstep, gallery and window.

The marshal of the day, Captain Fredrick Rutledge, rode at the head of the line, borne by a princely animal whose graceful movements were noticeably in harmony with the martial strains of music and the stirring sentiment of the occasion. He was followed by members of Cavalry Troop B., of the North Carolina National Guard. Next came the confederate veterans of Jackson County, for whose delight and in whose honor, in large measure, the celebration was being given. The old, battle-scarred banner, cherished and fondled by its keeper, Uncle Wesley Shelton, and loved by every one of the old boys for whom it was tenderly made by fair hands in other days, was borne proudly by a veteran in confederate gray. The First Regiment Band, of Asheville N. C., came next, rendering popular and war time airs. Then followed sons and daughters of the confederate veterans, twelve young ladies bearing the flag of the State, a unique design in the form of a living flag composed of students from the Qualla graded school, and a mighty host of admiring sympathizers from everywhere.

Soon the procession began to ascend the splendid new concrete stairway that leads from the street to the door of the courthouse on the hill above. Slowly the great line drew its length up the steps and swung into position around the monument. Eight boys and girls, each one for the companies contributed by Jackson County to the fighting force of the Civil War, drew aside the drapery that temporarily concealed the imposing figure of the confederate soldier and the base of marble upon which it rested. A mighty shout arose from the ad-

mirring throng. Then, twelve of Jackson's fairest daughters, dressed in red, white and blue, gathered about the pedestal of the statue and sang, "Maryland, My Maryland" and the immortal "Dixie". Every one felt and knew that the stately figure of bronze, holding high its noble head to meet the breezes that ever blow across these sacred hills, represented a heroism, a loyalty and a glory seldom equalled upon the face of the earth.

It seemed unfitting to turn away hungry the great multitude that had come together to witness the unveiling of the monument. Accordingly, the management had made preparation for a bountiful dinner, which was served upon the crest of the court house hill.

In the afternoon, the line of march was again organized, this time its objective point being the large auditorium of the Sylva Public School building, where the exercises of the day were to be continued and concluded.

The chairman of the occasion was Mr. W. L. Henson, the efficient Clerk of the Court for Jackson county, who acquitted himself gracefully in the discharge of his duties upon the platform. Mr. C. C. Cowan, representing the Monument Association in his own forceful and impressive manner, delivered the address of welcome. To this address, Professor A. C. Reynolds, President of the Cullowhee Normal and Industrial School, responded in a few well chosen remarks. Miss Beulah Dill's of Dillsboro, in charming manner, rendered Father Ryan's famous poem, "The Sword of Lee." It was then that Mr. James H. Cathey, chairman of the Monument Association, read the address of presentation, a paper which is a classic and which deserves to be preserved in the literary records of our day. For choice diction, for brevity amidst fullness, for appropriateness to occasion, and for rare and rich sentiment, the writer of these words has seldom heard its equal. The speech of acceptance was made by Hon. B. C. Jones, representative from Jackson, and was an effort worthy of a worthy son of the old confederacy. At the conclusion of an exquisite rendering of "The Flag of Dixie" by Miss Lucy Grindstaff, the band played "Dixie" and the audience rose to its feet with enthusiastic cheers, the old veterans joining in the chorus of applause. A large choir sat upon the platform and rendered appropriate music from time to time.

The orator of the day was then introduced by Mr. C. C. Buchanan, the competent and progressive president of Sylva's Board of Trade. A magnificent audience of about 700 people were now in the auditorium and gave a cordial greeting to the speaker of the occasion, General Theodore F. Davidson, of Asheville, who spoke feelingly of the days that tried men's hearts, calling attention to the regrettable fact that too many of us failed to understand and appreciate the great, underlying principles for which the men in grey yielded up their life blood in the sixties.

It was a day long to be remembered. It marked another forward step in the ever-growing interest in all things good and profitable that is becoming all the time more and more evident in the county and in the prosperous little city of Sylva. Upon every hand could be heard

words of praise for the chairman of the Association, Mr. James H. Cathey, who has for so long a time devoted himself untiringly and enthusiastically to the promotion of the enterprise. Glad words of appreciation were uttered in recognition of the services of all who took part in the great work. The contributions from the schools of the county and from various other sources were numerous and liberal. The hearts of the old "vets" were cheered and delighted, and the citizenship of Jackson County and of Sylva received new inspiration to look forward to the brighter and better days yet to dawn.

## OUR FAIR IS AT HAND.

Let no one minimize the importance of attending the Jackson County Fair which opens Tuesday 28th inst.

The coming Fair promises to be one of the most interesting and profitable yet held.

The agriculture and stockraising features will receive unusual emphasis and a new feature, dairying and butter making, will be introduced by trained men in this great modern line of farming.

The farm and stock exhibits will have special attention as the farmer is the man whose interests are of premier place in a county Fair.

The educational exhibit should be of next importance and we hope the schools of the county will take steps to have an exhibit present. Education is at the bottom of all true progress and this fact should ever be borne in mind.

All industrial exhibits shall have our painstaking attention and these should include the principal industries of our mountains, namely, mining, lumbering, tanning and others.

The social side of our Fair should have its proper estimate. With proper police regulation the Fair should always be the happiest of places for social intercourse, and the people should return to their homes knowing and liking each other better. Sections should understand each other better and the general community interest of the county should be permanently improved.

The amusement features of our Fair promises to be very pleasing and without the semblance of rudeness or offense to the most refined. All old soldiers and school children admitted free on Oct. 1.

The management promises you a great good time and bids you a royal welcome.

John R. Jones, Secretary.

## FATHER AND SON KILLED

J. J. Burl of Marbel reports the death of two men in an old mine near that place. Last Saturday Mr. W. D. Nix and son were working an old Talc mine, they put off a shot in the shaft before going to dinner and when they returned to work Mr. Nix was letting his son down in the shaft when the rope broke letting him fall to the bottom. Mr. Nix then run down an old ladder, and they were both over come with bad air, and it took some time to get help to get the men out, and they only lived a few hours after being removed.

Miss Alice Gray left Tuesday for Lynchburg Va., to enter school at the Randolph Macon College.

## TWO SENTENCED TO ELECTRIC CHAIR

Information reached the city yesterday that Merritt Miller and Hardy Wiggins were found guilty of the murder of P. L. Phillips and were sentenced to death in the electric chair by Judge Garland A. Ferguson yesterday morning in Superior court at Robbinsville. November 5 was the date set for the execution and both men appealed to the Supreme court.

Phillips was shot from ambush on the morning of August 23. In a dying statement he accused Miller and Wiggins of the deed and bloodhounds brought from Chattanooga confirmed his words by trailing these men from the scene of the shooting.

The trial was begun on September 13 and was hard fought. Counsel for the defense were Felix Alley of Waynesville and Dillard and Hill of Murphy and Sylva. Solicitor Lyle Jones of Franklin was assisted by Bryson and Black of Bryson, Gray and Jones and Williams, of Asheville.

Mr. Phillips, a prominent farmer of Graham county, was the fourth member of his family, of which only one son survives, to meet a violent death following alleged disclosures in regard to the manufacture of blockade whiskey in Graham county. About May 1, Ed Williams, son-in-law of Phillips, is said to have gone to the Phillips' home near Topton and killed Mrs. Phillips, a son and a daughter who was the wife of Williams. Mr. Phillips and the state authorities offered a reward for the capture of Williams. Wiggins and Miller are alleged members of a gang of which Williams is reported to be the leader.

Judge Ferguson yesterday made proclamation declaring Williams an outlaw and calling upon all officers and citizens to aid in any possible way in his capture.—Gazette.

## MISS STEDMAN TO SING AT WEBSTER

On Friday evening at 7:30, Miss Anna Stedman, assisted by Mrs. Snow, will give a voice recital at the high school auditorium, in the interest of a library for Webster school.

Miss Stedman is now well known by our people for her beautiful voice and her generous interest in local improvement.

Those who have heard her sing desire to hear her again, and those who have not are eager for the opportunity to hear her.

CHARLOTTE YOUNG.

Mr. Walters of the Indian School was in the city yesterday making arrangements about getting some printing done for the Indian Fair that will be held Oct. 15. Mr. Walters says that they will put an exhibit at our coming fair, and we all know what that means for we have had their exhibits before to see them alone is well worth the price of admission. They took first prize last year on some of their live stock. The ones in charge of this school are doing some fine work among the Indians and deserves a good attendance at their coming fair from our county.

Fair or foul, we will have a real Fair anyway.